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PCT

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q86961

Hiroki OGAWA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/528,570

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: March 21, 2005

For: BLOOD ANALYZER AND METHOD OF SEPARATING PLASMA

**SUBMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT
(IPER)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

For the Examiner's convenience, enclosed herewith is a copy of the English translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER). It is assumed that copies of the cited references as required by §371(c) will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned will undertake to provide them upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 4, 2005

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
 OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
 OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
 ON PATENTABILITY
 (CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II)
 OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
 (PCT Rule 72.2)

To:

YAMADA, Fumio
 Koshiyama Bldg. 4F
 15-2, Minami-Aoyama 1-chome
 Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0062
 JAPON

Date of mailing (*day/month/year*)
 23 June 2005 (23.06.2005)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
 Hori-PCT0304

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.
 PCT/JP2003/011909

International filing date (*day/month/year*)
 18 September 2003 (18.09.2003)

Applicant

JAPAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY et al

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation made by the International Bureau of the international preliminary examination report established by the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following elected Offices requiring such translation:

CN, EP, KR

The following elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

US

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report.

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO
 34, chemin des Colombettes
 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Yoshiko Kuwahara

Facsimile No.+41 22 740 14 35

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference HORI-PCT0304	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2003/011909	International filing date (day/month/year) 18 September 2003 (18.09.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 20 September 2002 (20.09.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G01N 1/10		
Applicant JAPAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of <u>2</u> sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>

Date of submission of the demand 19 April 2004 (19.04.2004)	Date of completion of this report 15 December 2004 (15.12.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/011909

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:
- international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

- The international application as originally filed/furnished
- the description:
 pages _____ 1-15 _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- the claims:
 pages _____ 4,5,7 _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on 01 October 2004 (01.10.2004)
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- the drawings:
 pages _____ 1-7 _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages _____
- the claims, Nos. 2,3 _____
- the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- the sequence listing (specify): _____
- any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- the description, pages _____
- the claims, Nos. _____
- the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- the sequence listing (specify): _____
- any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP03/11909

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1, 4-7	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1, 4-7	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1, 4-7	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Document 1: JP, 2001-258868, A (Jun Kikuchi), 25 September, 2001 (25.09.01), full text, all drawings describes a blood analyzer comprising a U-shaped passage communicating between a blood inlet and a blood outlet, wherein a plasma separating means for separating plasma and blood cells from each other by centrifugal force is provided at the lowest portion of the said U-shaped passage.

Document 2: JP, 9-506501, A (Baxter International, Inc.), 30 June, 1997 (30.06.97), page 23, all drawings describes a blood component separator, comprising (1) a passage communicating between a blood inlet and a blood outlet and (2) a plasma separating means provided halfway in the passage, in which (a) the said plasma separating means has an accommodating section positioned in the centrifugal force applying direction, for accommodating the settling heavier components of the blood, and (b) the upper stream section and the lower stream section of the said passage contact the said accommodating section and communicate with each other at a position above the said accommodating section.

The subject matters of claims 1 and 4-7 are neither described in any of the documents cited in the ISR nor obvious to a person skilled in the art.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP03/11909

Box No. VI Certain documents cited

1. Certain published documents (Rule 70.10)

Application No. Patent No.	Publication date (day/month/year)	Filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (valid claim) (day/month/year)
JP 2003-83958 A [E, X]	19.03.2003	11.09.2001	

2. Non-written disclosures (Rule 70.9)

Kind of non-written disclosure	Date of non-written disclosure (day/month/year)	Date of written disclosure referring to non-written disclosure (day/month/year)